THE CASE OF ARRABELLA Lady HOWARD, On the Behalf of Her PROTESTANT RELATIONS.

THE ſaid *Arrabella* was the only Child of Sir *Edmund Alleyn*, Bart. and Dame *Frances* his Wife, who both died *Proteſtants*, and left the ſaid *Arrabella* ſole Heir to an Eſtate of about Fourteen Hundred Pounds *per Annum*, being then an Infant of about Two Years old.

THAT one *William Thompſon*, of *Scarborough*, Eſq; deceaſed, by indirect means, got the ſaid *Arrabella* out of the Cuſtody of Sir *William Dalſton* (with whom her Mother had entruſted her,) and carried her to his Houſe in *Yorkſhire*, who being proſecuted on this Account by Mr. *John Alleyn*, her Father's near Kinſman, and after that by Sir *William Jones*, (afterwards *Attorney-General*) who had Married her Father's Siſter: The ſaid *William Thompſon* procures her to be Married (being then about Seven Years of Age) to his Son *Francis Thompſon*, and the more effectually to ſecure himſelf from the ſaid Proſecution, conveys her into *France*, and conceals her in a Nunnery, (where ſhe became inſtructed in the Religion ſhe now profeſſes;) and he himſelf alſo fled beyond Sea.

NOT long after this ſhe was brought back into *England*, but kept concealed in a little Cottage upon a Common, where ſhe converſed with no Perſons beſides the Siſter of the ſaid *William Thompſon*, who was a *Roman-Catholick*, and was not ſuffered to ſee any of her Relations till her Age of Twelve Years, and then by Threats and Artifices ſhe was prevailed on to conſent to a Second Marriage with the ſaid *Francis Thompſon*, by which Marriage her ſaid Husband and his Father gained above *Twenty Thouſand Pounds* perſonal Eſtate, beſides *Seven Thouſand Pounds worth of Wood*, which they cut off from her Inheritance, which by ſuch Waſts and other Neglects was reduced from *Fourteen Hundred* to *One Thouſand Pounds* per Annum.

THAT during the Life of the ſaid *Francis Thompſon*, ſhe was treated inhumanly by him and his Relations, becauſe ſhe refuſed to levy a Fine, and ſettle her real Eſtate on the Family of the *Thompſon's*, and was beholden to the aboveſaid Sir *William Jones* for Bread, till by his Aſſiſtance, her Husband was compelled to allow her a Maintenance, which was no more than *Two Hundred Pounds per Annum* out of the whole Eſtate.

THE ſaid *Arrabella* had Iſſue by the ſaid *Francis Thompſon*, one Son, *(viz.) William Thompſon*, who is now living (and is a *Proteſtant*) and poſſeſſed of a very conſiderable real Eſtate, to the Amount of *Twelve* or *Fourteen Hundred Pounds per Annum*, moſt part of which was purchaſed and cleared with her Fortune, And out of great part of which, ſhe was (after the Death of her ſaid Husband) entitled to Dower, which ſhe (for the tender Regard ſhe had for her ſaid Son) did releaſe unto him, as ſoon as he attained the Age of One and Twenty Years, with all Arrears then due, and afterwards joyned with him in paſſing a Fine of his ſaid Eſtate, that it might be free for him to ſettle in Jointure on his Marriage, or otherwiſe to diſpoſe of for his own Advantage.

THAT ſhe is adviſ'd, That by a Clauſe inſerted in a Bill now depending in this Honourable Houſe, entitled *A Bill to appoint Commiſſioners to enquire of the Eſtates of certain Traytors, and of* Popiſh *Recuſants, and of Eſtates given to ſuperſtitious Uſes, in order to raiſe Money out of them ſeverally, for the Uſe of the Publick.* She will be diſabled to make any Mortgage, or Sale of any Part of her ſaid Eſtate, for the Supply of her own Perſonal Occaſions; Or to make any Settlement thereof, or of any Part thereof upon her own Relations, or Family, who are all *Proteſtants*, and have no ſuitable Eſtate to maintain their Dignity.) The real Eſtate deſcending to her who was Heir at Law; tho' the Dignity went to the Heir Male; but that her ſaid Son, will (in caſe the ſaid Clauſe paſs into a Law) have Power to Sell, or give away the Remainder, and Reverſion of her ſaid Eſtate, even in her Life-Time.

SHE Therefore, humbly offers, and ſubmits to the Wiſdom of this Honourable Houſe, whether it be Juſt and Reaſonable that the *Thompſon's* who have already received out of her Family above *Thirty thouſand Pounds*; and have treated her ſo Ill; ſhould now, by a new Law, prevent her from the Diſpoſal of her own Inheritance, for the Payment of her own Debts, and neceſſary Subſiſtance, and for the Support of her own *Proteſtant* Relations, who have great Need of it; in ſuch manner as ſhe ſhall think fit. And yet ſhe was always minded to give her ſaid Son very conſiderable Advantages from her ſaid Eſtate; but is deſirous he may receive it as the Effect of her Kindneſs, and ſhe not to be diſabled from making ſome Proviſion for her Debts, and her other *Proteſtant* Relations.

SHE hopes therefore, That as other Attempts of this Nature have been laid aſide upon the Conſideration of the Hardſhips of her Caſe, ſo nothing now will be done to her Prejudice; but that this Honourable Houſe will think Juſt *to prevent the paſſing a Clauſe, which affects her more than any other Perſon in* England; *Or, at leaſt, by ſome Proviſo, to exempt her, and her* Proteſtant *Relations from the Severity of ſuffering by it.*

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THE CASE OF THE Lady HOWARD.

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